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The Judicial Council of Georgia met twice over the summer.

June 17, 2015

The Judicial Council met at the Sloppy Floyd Building in Atlanta on June 17, 2015. Chief Justice Hugh P. Thompson welcomed members, staff, and visitors to the meeting. New Judicial Council member Judge Horace J. Johnson, Jr., Superior Courts, Alcovy Judicial Circuit, took the oath of service.

A special report on the Supreme Court of Georgia's Committee on Justice for Children's Cold Case Project, which seeks to ensure legal permanency for children in state custody, was delivered by Michelle Barclay, Assistant Director, Children Families, and the Courts.

Committee Reports

The Judicial council heard reports from the Policy and Legislative Committee and the JC/AOC Director Search Committee.



Presiding Judge Sara Doyle presented the Strategic Planning Implementation Committee's proposed Bylaws and research priorities for the Judicial Council. Both items passed.

Judge Doyle, then presented nominations to the Board of Court Reporting for three new appointments which were approved. New appointments included: Judge John Kent Edwards, Jr., State Court of Lowndes County; Cheryl D. Gilliam, Official Reporter; and Maxine Bursky, Freelance Reporter. The terms of the incumbent Board members were renewed. Revisions to certification and training standards for realtime reporting services offered in Georgia courts were

unanimously approved.

Judge Brenda Weaver, Chair of the Judicial Council Accountability Courts Committee, reported on the transitioning of work to the new Council of Accountability Court Judges.

Justice Harold Melton updated the Council on the budget, and also reported that the Statewide Judiciary Civil E-Filing Steering Committee selected the National Center for State Courts to provide consulting services relating to a new e-filing portal.

Director's Report

Interim Director Cynthia Clanton reported on the changes occurring within the AOC and the agency's ongoing services to the judiciary.

Conclusion

Prior to adjourning the meeting, several outgoing members were presented with Certificates of Appreciation for their dedicated service on the Judicial Council including Judge Mary Staley, Judge Kathlene Gosselin, Judge Charles Wynne, Judge J. Lane Bearden and Judge E.R. Lanier. Chief Judge Herbert Phipps, Court of Appeals, and Judge Allen Wigington were thanked in absentia.

August 6, 2015



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